

AGENDA: September 10, 2002

9.1

CATEGORY: Items Initiated by Council

DEPT.: City Council

TITLE: Senior Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize staff to research and develop options for the creation of a senior advisory committee for the City.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact directly associated with the approval of the above-listed recommendation.

There would be potential staffing impacts associated with a decision to create a senior advisory committee.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Addressing issues and needs relating to Mountain View's senior citizens has been an ongoing priority for the City.

During the past several years, the City has undertaken several initiatives to address issues facing seniors in the community (e.g., moving forward with the construction of a new Senior Center facility, working to retain hundreds of senior housing units that were at risk of being lost as affordable units, etc.).

Between 1974 and 1998, the Mountain View Senior Coordinating Council promoted and coordinated activities, programs and organizations that contributed to the general social welfare of persons 60 years of age and older in the Mountain View area. The Senior Coordinating Council was not a Council-appointed advisory group nor did it function as a formal advisory body to either the City's Parks and Recreation Commission or the City Council. The Senior Coordinating Council dissolved in 1998 because of difficulty in maintaining the requisite number of officers to serve in leadership positions.

Given the valuable resource seniors represent in our community and the City's high-priority interest in serving that segment of the City's population, the City Council may wish to consider establishing a senior advisory committee for the City. Establishment of a senior

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committee or advisory board would also allow Mountain View seniors to be represented on regional bodies that require committee or advisory board membership.

Neighboring Santa Clara County cities, including Santa Clara, Milpitas, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and Cupertino, all currently have senior advisory boards/committees.

CONCLUSION

If the City Council directs staff to pursue this issue further, staff will return at a future City Council meeting with options and staffing/cost estimates for creating a senior advisory committee for the City of Mountain View.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

Prepared by:

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SJL/WW/6/CAM
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